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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT
AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Date of Deposit: November 18, 2003

Applicant(s): K. KIMURA

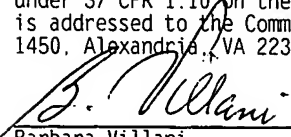
Serial No. : Not yet assigned

Filed : Herewith

For : AN INK JET RECORDING
APPARATUS HAVING
MAINTENANCE MEANS
FOR CLEANING AN INK
JET RECORDING HEAD

Art Unit :
Examiner :

I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450


Barbara Villani

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450,
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

S I R :

Submitted herewith are copies of the publications identified on the attached Patent Office form PTO/SB/08A and a related application identified on form PTO/SB/08B.

It is respectfully requested that these publications be considered and made of record.

DISCUSSION

Japanese No. 9-76517 - An art to obtain the optical effect for wiping off, by providing the hardness of the rubber for a single wiping member JIS K6301A type, hardness 40 to 60 degrees.

Japanese No. 2000-177113 - An inkjet recording apparatus having a plurality of wipers, in which each edge of the wipers is located in different positions according to the distance between the recording head and the recording medium, and a mechanism, which can switch the distance between the recording head and the recording medium.

Japanese No. 2000-127417 - A cleaning device wherein the wiping member has at least one slit so that the angle obtained by the elastic deformation may be the optimal to the cleaning.

Japanese No. 2001-219567 - An inkjet recording apparatus which performs ink suction and wiping operation repetitiously according to the viscosity of the ink at the opening of the nozzle of the recording head.

Japanese No. 2002-283590 - Setting for recovery process after arrival of the inkjet heads will be changed compared with the normal recovery process; the negative pressure for suction is set stronger, the suction amount is increased, the number of suction is increased, the number of wiper cleaning is increased or the viscosity of the ink inside the head is decreased by heating it.

Respectfully submitted,



Douglas Holtz
Reg. No. 33,902

Frishauf, Holtz, Goodman & Chick, P.C.
767 Third Avenue - 25th Floor
New York, New York 10017-2023
Tel. No. (212) 319-4900
Fax No. (212) 319-5101
LH:bv

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PTO/SB/08A (08-00)

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Substitute for Form 1449A/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT				Application Number			
				Filing Date		Herewith	
				First Named Inventor		KIMURA	
				Group Art Unit			
				Examiner Name			
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number		03685/LH	

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Exam. Inits*	Cite No ¹	Document Number	Kind Code ²	Name of Patentee or Applicant	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Relevant Portion

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Exam Inits*	Cite No ¹	offc ³	Document Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵	Name of Patentee or Applicant	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Relevant Portion	T ⁶
		JP	9-76517	A	NAKAHARA	03-25-1997		X*
		JP	2000-127417	A	MORIKOSHI	05-09-2000		X*
		JP	2000-177113	A	UCHIKATA	06-27-2000		X*
		JP	2001-219567	A	HAYAKAWA	08-14-2001		X*
		JP	2002-283590	A	SAIJO ET AL	10-03-2002		X*
			*English abstract attached.					

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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* EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPBP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Unique citation designation number. ² See kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Place a check here if English translation is attached.

DATE MAILED: **November 18, 2003**

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Substitute for Form 1449A/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT				Application Number		
				Filing Date		Herewith
				First Named Inventor		KIMURA
				Group Art Unit		
				Examiner Name		
Sheet	2	of	2	Attorney Docket Number		03685/LH
OTHER PRIOR ART - NON-PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials ¹	Cite No. ¹	Include name of author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of article, title of item, date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published				T ²
		Related application Serial No. 10/396,301; K. KIMURA et al; filed March 25, 2003; INK JET RECORDING APPARATUS HAVING MAINTENANCE MEANS FOR CLEANING AN INK JET RECORDING HEAD and Official Filing Receipt.				
Examiner Signature				Date Considered		

* EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

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